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The Spectator

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Community calls attention to pressing environmental issues at Climate Strike

by Kaitlyn Fudge '23
Contributing Writer

At 12 PM on Friday, Sept. 20, as part of an international movement, many Hamilton students participated in a campus-wide climate strike. Participants wore blue, skipped their classes as a form of protest, and attended a rally outside of Commons.

Scientists predict that unless drastic measures are taken in the near future to address pressing threats to the climate, damage to the planet will be irreversible by 2023. At Hamilton and other college campuses around the world, students showed out in protest of a perceived lack of action on climate change from local, national, and international leaders.

At the rally, painted signs (made from recycled cardboard) were passed around and strike organizers led students in chants like, "This is what democracy looks like!" and "What do we want? Climate justice! When do we want it? Now!"

The noon rally saw speeches from a variety of student leaders and performances from acapella groups like Special K, Duelly Noted, and Tumbling After.

Juasline Plasencia '23, one of the speakers at the rally, said, "On the hottest days we cannot risk leaving our windows open nor can we afford to turn on our air conditioning. We cannot afford to relocate nor can we afford to purchase the necessary tools and supplies needed for the increase of tropical storms and hurricanes."

Brooke Kessler '22, one of the strike's organizers, said that climate change "is hurting communities right now, especially those on the front line. People of color, indigenous peoples, and those living in disaster-prone areas are bearing the brunt of our unsustainable and wasteful practices.

"I want to send the message that joining in the fight against the climate crisis in not just about recycling or not using plastic straws; it is also about mobilizing into action and pursuing environmental justice."

Strike organizers said they estimate over 100 community members attended the rally. At various points, attendees put forth their own ideas for addressing climate change. Proposed solutions varied from "better dietary options" to "better education," in addition to "increased sustainability." Many expressed feeling an overall anxiety about the future of the planet.

Joining the student and faculty attendees were many community members from off the Hill, including first-year students from Clinton High School. According to a teacher from the high school, the students organized their participation in the strike, skipping school and finding their own transportation up the Hill.

There were also several Clinton families at the strike. One mother, Celeste DeMore, said she attended the rally "for my children" because she wanted to "be sure that they see me try my best to fight this and to raise attention to climate change." For their part, children were seen holding signs and writing "CLIMATE MATTERS" with chalk on the sidewalk.

For its part, the College currently has a 22-page "Climate Action Plan" that outlines its strategies for adopting more environmentally-friendly practices.

Still, Eric Stenzel '23, a lead organizer of the strike along with Hamilton's Climate Strike Committee, says the College's "Climate Action Plan" does not address its relationship to the fossil fuel industry.

Stenzel said the Climate Strike Committee discovered that there are "millions of dollars invested in fossil fuels," and added that it is not clear "exactly how much that is."

"We don't know which companies they're in, and we don't know exactly what the plan is to get them out of those companies," he added.

Strike organizers laid out three main objectives for the rally in an all-campus email sent in the days leading up to the event. In the email, they laid out the following goals: "Show solidarity with strikes around the world, and raise urgent awareness about the issue of climate change, and especially shed light.

"Demand bold climate action at the federal and local policy level, and facilitate civic engagement with these issues.

"Support climate action initiatives on campus, such as investment and land leasing transparency, and invite our Board of Trustees to meet with Hamilton community members that concerned about fossil fuel investments at their next Hamilton meeting in two weeks."

Additionally, Mian Osumi '21, the Outreach Coordinator for the Climate Strike Committee, said, "[The Committee] demands divestment because it's insane that this College invests so much in our students and what we've heard from the administration is that they want to make sure that we get the best financial returns on our investments [...] You are not going to get good financial returns if [...] it is endangering our future"

The College says it aims to cut carbon output in the coming years and become carbon-neutral by 2050. Stenzel believes the goal should be 2030.

"Hamilton is a school of less than 2000 students," he said. "I think it's entirely reasonable to say that we can get this to be carbon neutral in 11 years."

Stenzel added that he believes "it is just as much a political decision to have money in fossil fuels as it is to not have it in there, because we are still funding those things that are leading to the destruction of our planet."

On Monday, Sept. 23, from 4-6 PM in the tent on Dunham Green, College faculty members hosted an event titled Conversations on the Climate Crisis," which served as a follow up to Friday's strike.

Faculty participants in the discussion included professors from the Economics, Geoscience, Biology, Government, Environmental Studies, Anthropology, Literature, and History Departments. According to an all-campus email sent to the community, the event covered different strategies for climate action "in the context of the science of climate change, climate economics, the politics of climate change, climate justice, climate activism, historical perspectives on climate change, and the human dimensions of the climate crisis."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA SEEWALD '23

Students, faculty, and community members spoke about taking action on climate change issues at the rally.

College to pilot new program "Common Ground on the Ground"

by Brian Seiter '23
Contributing Writer

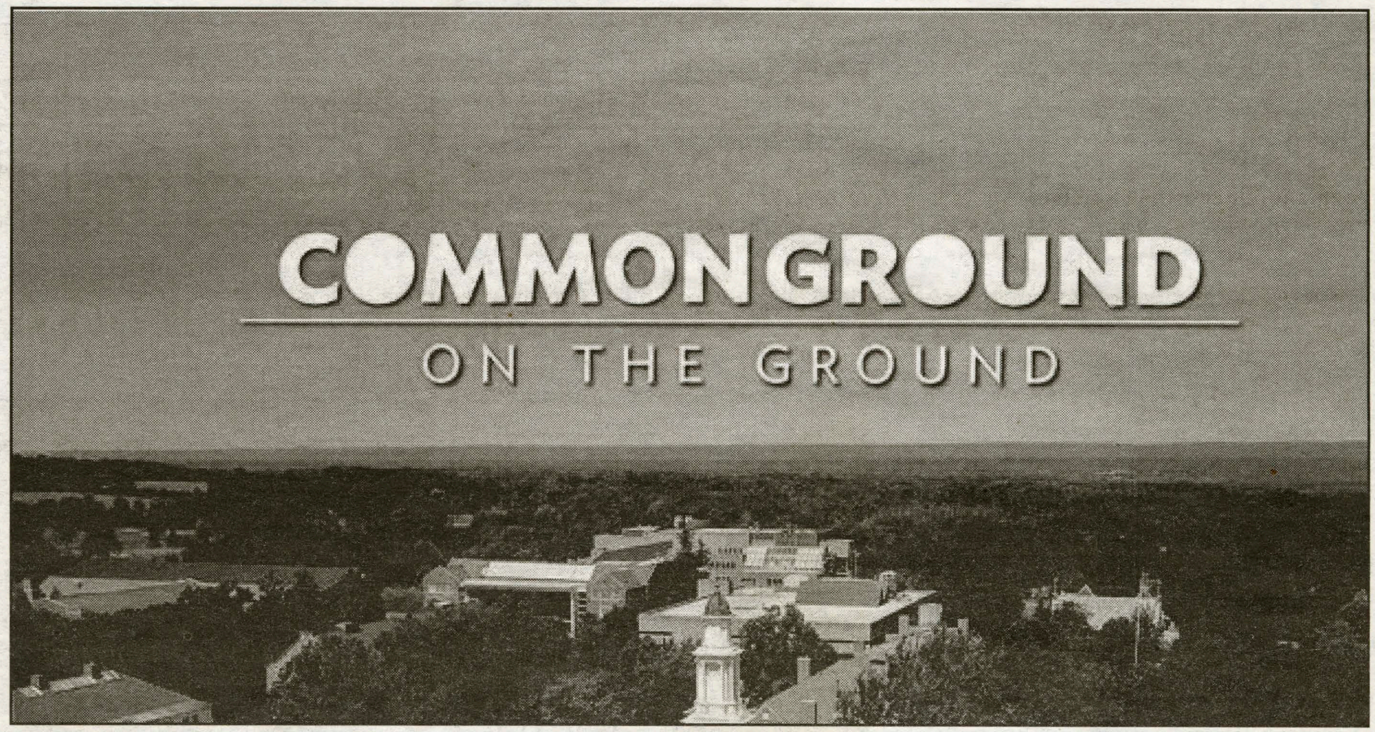

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

"Common Ground on the Ground" will act as a supplement to the Common Ground program by engaging with a variety of fields like politics, economics, history, philosophy, and law.

On Tuesday, Sept. 3, College President David Wippman announced that the College had received financial support from a donor to create a supplement to the Common Ground program called "Common Ground on the Ground."

According to Wippman, the new program will seek to "to stimulate discussion of pressing social issues across a wide range of subject areas, including economics, history, literature, the arts, philosophy, law, and politics."

Common Ground is a Hamilton College series that brings together influential political figures with differing viewpoints to model productive discourse as they engage in discussions about political and social issues. The series has featured the likes of Marc Elias '90, Condoleezza Rice, Jim Messina, Reince Priebus, and David Axelrod in recent years.

Common Ground on the Ground looks to stimulate conversations and collaboration on the various social issues discussed on campus after Common Ground speakers leave campus and will also allow students to participate in the Common Ground Program more actively than ever before.

"Instead of audience members simply watching two people engage respectfully on difficult issues — as is the case now with the Common Ground speakers program — students will have the chance to participate actively in the types of challenging conversations that are an important part of a liberal arts education," said Wippman.

Common Ground on the Ground will draw on the entire Hamilton College community for proposals for different speakers and topics. Wippman offered some examples of the types of proposals that might receive funding from the College like student-led media that present varying perspectives, new courses and lectures, and programs that train students to facilitate dialogue between people with differing ideas.

These proposals for the new program would be judged with the following criteria: their potential to create valuable experiences with long term impacts, how topical and important the different issues at hand are, the ways in which different opinions and viewpoints are balanced and included, the number of students involved within the program, and how sustainable and scalable the program is when considered beyond its proposed pilot program.

These broad nature of the criteria is part of the program's goal to make room for many different possibilities sourced from all areas of campus. As a supplement to the Common Ground program, it seeks to expand the scope of campus discourse and engagement beyond the realm of politics.

Said Wippman: "Common Ground on the Ground is another opportunity for students to learn from the rich diversity of thought and experience on our campus, and these new programs will better prepare our students to engage civilly and constructively no matter what profession they choose after leaving Hamilton."

Student Assembly selects Fienco '23's design for Class of 2023 banner

by Erica Ivins '21
Staff Writer

The Class of 2023 has officially selected a winning design for their class banner. Going forward, all four banners for each class year will hang on the wall above Euphoria in the Sadove atrium.

"The class banners help cultivate a stronger, more vibrant Hamilton community," said Student Assembly President Amanda Kim '21. "The banners serve as a symbol of class identity and represent the class year indefinitely at school events, including graduation and alumni reunions."

Class banners are a new addition to the College, having been established as a tradition in fall 2018. This year, for the Class of 2023, Student Assembly received submissions for banner designs and voted on their favorite option.

"Students from each class, at the beginning of freshman year, can submit original designs," said Kim. "Their Student Assembly class delegation then votes to pick the winner."

Emily Fienco '23 created the winning design for the Class of 2023's banner.

In a statement accompanying her submission, Fienco said, "I see the Class of 2023 as fun, versatile, and constantly on the move. I wanted the design to represent our 'flow' and the creative, modern approach we're going to take on campus. We possess exciting energy and it just felt right!"

The inspiration for her design came from her fellow Hamilton students who, Fienco says, "possess passion and drive, and who are always down for a fun time. Being a part of the Class of 2023 is exciting, we bring change and a new perspective on campus. We all have a lot of love to give and a lot of vitality to put to work."

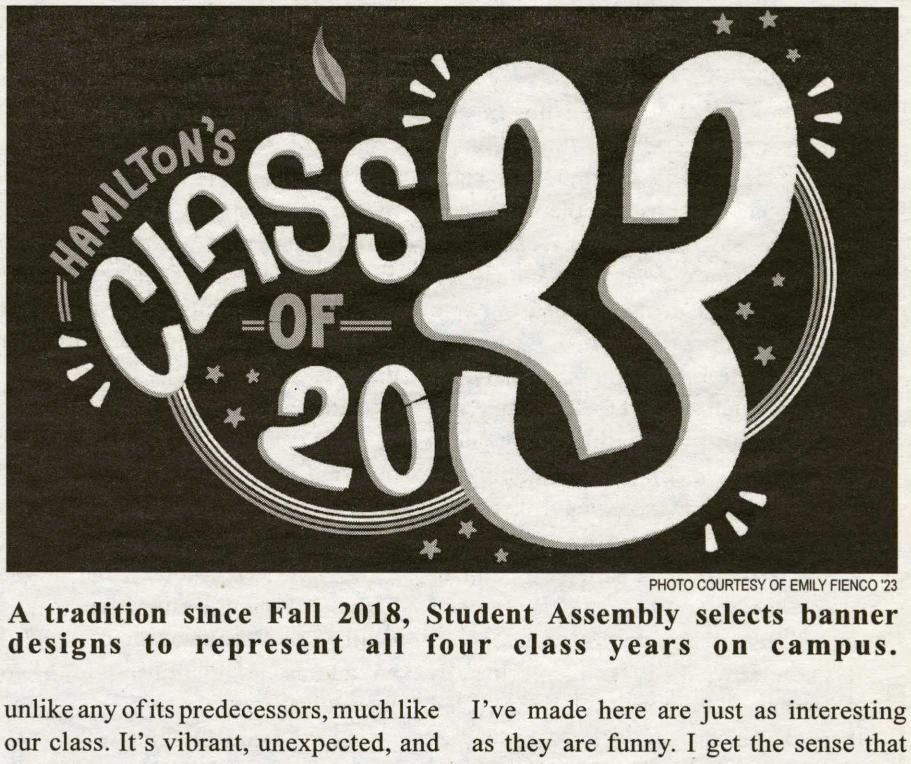

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMILY FIENCO '23

A tradition since Fall 2018, Student Assembly selects banner designs to represent all four class years on campus.

Juliet Davidson '23, Class of 2023 president, expressed excitement about Fienco's design and the other submissions Student Assembly received. "From the instant I saw Emily's design, I knew it was 'the one,'" she said. "Aside from being super groovy, the design is unlike any of its predecessors, much like our class. It's vibrant, unexpected, and something I think everyone can enjoy!"

Davidson echoes Fienco's comments on the "enthusiastic, passionate vibe" of her class, saying, "The friends I've made here are just as interesting as they are funny. I get the sense that people here care and that our class, with its diverse thinking and compassion, will contribute immensely to the community and be a gaggle or friendly, lively faces."

Coppock '02 to moderate Sacerdote Great Names event featuring Tina Fey

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

On Wednesday, Sept. 25, the College announced that Selena Coppock '02 will join Tina Fey on stage as the moderator for this year's highly-anticipated installment of the Sacerdote Great Names series on Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 7 PM in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Coppock, who graduated from Hamilton with a concentration in English, wrote for *The Spectator*, sang in the a capella group The Hamiltones, and was an active member of Greek life while on campus. She currently works as a managing editor for *The Princeton Review* in New York City in addition to her work as an author and storyteller.

Coppock released her first book, *The New Rules for Blondes*, in 2013 through HarperCollins. She has also written numerous articles for publications like *The Huffington Post*, *Jezebel*, and *xoJane*.

Coppock has also explored many different mediums to express her passion for comedy. She is the host of Two Wick Minimum, described as "America's only podcast on candles." She is also the creator of the parody Twitter account @NYTvows, where she takes a comedic perspective on the marriage and vows section of *The New York Times*.

She released her first stand-up album, *Seen Better Days*, in 2017 with Little Lamb Recordings. The album features 22 songs and spent two days at the #1 spot on the iTunes Comedy Chart.

Coppock has also dabbled in television, both as a consultant for the show *Younger* and also as a featured actress in the web television series *Red Oaks* on Amazon Prime. Finally, she has made appearances on Bravo, LifeTime, and CollegeHumor.com.

Prior to arriving on the Hill for the Great Names event, Coppock will host a storytelling show "In Your Own Words" in New York City. In November, she will perform in "Bitchcraft," a variety show that she co-hosts with Lauren Maul.

The Great Names event is free and open to the public, but tickets will be required. A limited number of tickets — for both Hamilton community members and the general public — are still available as of Sept. 25.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANYA GARRETT

Selena Coppock '02, a writer and stand-up comedian based in New York City, will moderate the Great Names discussion with guest Tina Fey.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Wednesday, September 18

12:13 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall

Thursday, September 19

1:20 A.M. Noise Complaint – South Campus
1:37 A.M. Trouble Alarm – North Campus
10:22 A.M. Fire Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
9:35 P.M. TipNow – Morris House
11:15 P.M. Medical Emergency – Major Residence Hall

Friday, September 20

11:00 P.M. Noise Complaint – North Campus

Saturday, September 21

2:24 A.M. Noise Complaint – North Campus
9:41 A.M. Noise Complaint – Morris House
10:20 A.M. Complaint – Griffin Road Apartments
11:30 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall
1:30 P.M. Fire Alarm – Woolcott House
1:40 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Residence Hall
5:40 P.M. Fire Alarm– Days-Massolo Center
12:46 A.M. Medical Emergency – Wallace Johnson Hall
6:48 P.M. Area Check – Babbitt Residence Hall
11:19 P.M. Noise Complaint – Griffin Road Apartments

Sunday, September 22

2:03 A.M. Noise Complaint – Carnegie Residence Hall
2:17 A.M. Assist – Off Campus Location
2:57 A.M. Area Check – Woolcott House
3:15 P.M. Complaint – Morris House
7:02 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Babbitt Pavilion
8:24 P.M. Medical Emergency – Skenandoa Residence Hall
11:33 P.M. Area Check – South Campus

Monday, September 23

12:06 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
12:59 A.M. Fire Alarm – Morris House
2:07 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
7:29 A.M. Medical Emergency – Blood Fitness Center
8:39 A.M. Medical Emergency – Major Residence Hall
9:09 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
12:58 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Griffin Road Apartments
5:04 P.M. Medical Emergency – Taylor Science Center
7:09 P.M. Fire Alarm – 95 College Hill Road

Letter to the Editor: To the Board of Trustees

My name is Eric Stenzel. I'm a first-year early decision applicant here on the Hill, and I am incredibly proud to finally be a member of this community. It has been an incredible first month, and I cannot wait for what the next few years will bring.

It is because of my love for this place that I must critique some of its institutional practices.

Last Friday, Hamilton took part in the global climate strike. We spoke about many things at that rally. Some spoke regarding our fellow young people across the globe, others about our government, and many about the need to pursue equity while we move towards sustainability. We said that we live in a world of climate crisis, and we must act like it.

We also had an invitation for you; join us in acknowledging the true, dire urgency of the climate crisis by divesting the endowment fully from all companies involved in the extraction, production, or distribution of coal, oil, or natural gas on the fastest possible timeline. Join us in proactively securing our futures by reinvesting an equal or greater amount into renewable energy companies. Further, we ask you to demonstrate your commitment to sustainability by moving our carbon neutrality goal to 2030. We ask for transparency throughout these processes. Most importantly, we ask that this all come about in a public statement that declares why it is being done: to protect the futures of your students.

All of these are important, but I will focus on the endowment.

When similar requests have been made before, the response has been that the College does not take political positions on these issues. We say you already have. The College's money is in-of-itself an endorsement of their practices.The decision to put money into fossil fuel companies enables what they do, and therefore it is partially responsible for their actions. What is more unfortunate is that Hamilton then profits off of these businesses. When we get dividends from these companies (do we? another question to be answered), we are making money off of their harmful practices.

Know thy role in this: when Hamilton invests money in a fossil fuel company, they are more able to extract the fuels that will inevitably increase global heating. Global heating, the cause of the climate crisis, will lead to destruction on a scale beyond the imagination if we do not address it. Crops will fail, hundreds of millions will be displaced, and ecosystems will be destroyed. The societal implications of food shortages and mass displacement need not be discussed. But, I digress. Hamilton then makes a profit off of these investments.

It truly does bother me to think that the institution which I love is in effect supporting the systems which cause my generation so much existential anxiety. Our lives are literally on the line in this crisis, and it is time we elevate this conversation to that level.

But there is a way to make up for this: reinvestment. We ask that Hamilton College take all the money it has had in fossil fuels over the years and put it in socially responsible renewable energy companies. This will make Hamilton a moral leader not only to its students, but to other colleges.

The crux of this issue is really quite simple. We want our institution, our home, to act on the scale required to protect its students. This school does so much to prepare us for our futures, but what is the point if that future does not exist? Part of Hamilton's commitment to the growth of its students must be doing as much as it can to fight the climate crisis. I hope you will join us in the fight to save our planet and species.

Sincerely,
Eric

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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DREW ANDERSON '21
OPINION COLUMNIST

Against the Gig Economy

Last week, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 5 (2019), a landmark law with the potential to upset the growing gig economy. The law requires companies like Uber and Lyft to treat contract workers as employees. Classified as employees, workers would subsequently be entitled to more expansive labor protections like minimum wage, sick pay, workers compensation, and unemployment benefits. All of these protections do not apply to independent contractors.

Assembly Bill 5 marks a turnaround in the expansion of the gig economy, which has grown in popularity as Americans seek flexible hours and low-commitment employment outside their primary occupation. According to the Intuit and Emergent Research On-Demand Economy Worker Study in 2017, the American gig economy is expected "[to] grow from 3.9 million Americans in 2016 to 9.2 million by 2021."

Now this expected growth in the gig economy workforce might face unexpected challenges in California. But contrary to what some believe, many gig economy workers supported the passing of the law, even as gig economy companies claim that the law will lead to a diminished workforce and fewer hours available for employees to work.

For years now, large delivery and ride-sharing corporations have been raking in massive profits off the backs of a vulnerable workforce. Independent contractors have become ubiquitous in the gig economy; people who might have taken a few shifts from an employer as a second job are now taking on a lot more than just extra hours. When they work as independent contractors for gig economy companies, workers assume risks and liabilities that should be covered by their employers.

Independent contractors in the gig economy operate separately from the companies that pay them and are tasked with the responsibility of paying for and maintaining vehicles by renting vans and trucks, or driving their own car for ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft.

Workers crave the flexibility offered by gig economy work, but it is unreasonable that workers are expected to accept the risks and liability of their work while lacking corporate resources like a legal team or in-house repair services for protection. When workers have accidents while operating as independent contractors, they are on their own.

If a worker crashes a van while operating as an independent contractor for Amazon, they are liable for the accident. Amazon routinely cites indemnification agreements when taken to court to account for accidents by drivers delivering its packages. Agreements like these usually require contractors to "defend, indemnify and hold harmless Amazon."

As *The New York Times* reported earlier this month, "The agreements cover 'all loss or damage to personal property or bodily harm including death,'" and an Amazon operations manager testified recently that Amazon signs agreements like this with all of their "delivery service partners." Amazon is off the hook for the actions of the drivers delivering its packages, even as *ProPublica* identified over 60 accidents since 2015 that caused serious injuries that involved contractors delivering for Amazon, including ten deaths.

Gig economy companies argue that this approach to employing a driving workforce makes the logistics and expense of such massive operations possible. In order to ship more goods to customers, drive around more ride-hailers, and make two-day shipping possible, gig economy companies turn to massive networks of independent contractors to fulfill their needs.

These flexible networks of employees allow companies to expand and contract their enormous delivery and ride-hailing fleets in order to deliver to market needs. Uber uses surge pricing to get more drivers to areas of high demand while diminishing rider over-demand. Amazon's contractors negotiate their own contracts and hours with the company.

But the flexibility that these companies often reference in defense of the independent contractor approach to work is not a two-way street between workers and companies. Though work in the gig-economy is often described as flexible, the conditions and format in which workers operate is often less than so.

Even as companies like Amazon and Uber argue in court that they bear no legal responsibility for the accidents and damage caused by the thousands of drivers working for them, these companies often maintain strict control over how their employees operate while on the job.

Take independently-contracted drivers for Amazon, who are paid by and work for hundreds of different companies throughout the United States. Even though Amazon is not signing their paychecks, it is often setting strict delivery quotas for drivers. *The New York Times* reported earlier in September that drivers working through independent contracts had to ensure that "999 out of 1,000 deliveries arrive on time." Amazon also controls the order of drivers' deliveries and the route they take to destinations. Amazon has software that tracks drivers along their routes and Amazon warehouse dispatch teams can contact drivers if they are running late on deliveries.

The flexibility afforded to companies by the gig economy does not extend to the workers themselves. The most pressing issue with the gig economy approach to employing a delivery workforce is that these drivers are not permanent, professional drivers; many are professionals only in the sense that they are paid to drive vehicles. A potential lack of training and experience can lead to an increased risk of accidents on the job.

Delivery companies like UPS train their drivers in multi-million dollar facilities, while Amazon's drivers train "primarily through instructional videos they watch on their phones" and an onboarding course that includes "less than half of one page devoted to defensive driving," according to the *Times*. Meanwhile, *ProPublica* reports that five in ten fatal crashes involving Amazon drivers occurred while drivers were making left turns, an action that is usually programmed out of most UPS routes.

Of course, permanent employees are expensive. Unlike independent contractors, who are usually liable for their own actions even when working on company business, employees require health care, pensions, worker's compensation, and unemployment insurance obligations. Having employees on the books also triggers federal and state tax withholding.

The numerous costs of having employees, as opposed to independent contractors, explains why companies in the gig economy are pushing hard to protect the status of their workers as independent contractors. With the signing of California's Assembly Bill 5 into law last week, gig economy companies including Uber, Lyft, and Doordash have pledged to pump more than $90 million combined into the issue to take it to the California ballot and allow the voters to decide. This strategy serves as plan-B if these gig economy companies are unable to negotiate special contractor status for their workers with the California government.

Many businesses argue that they will not be able to sustain their existing business models with the passage of more extensive labor laws. But a business model should not be considered sustainable in the first place if it requires the exploitation of workers without overtime, sick pay, and workers being held solely liable for incidental accidents while on the job. Gig economy work has its benefits, especially in providing employees with immense flexibility in their hours. But workers should not have to give up commonplace employee protections as a trade-off.

Email activism storms our inboxes

by Philip Marks '21
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Activism comes in many forms, but email activism? That has to be limited to small liberal arts colleges.

After a quick search, no seems to have even coined the term yet, so I am defining email activism as: "Clubs or organizations copying and pasting the same email over and over again, promoting the same thing, in order to raise awareness for an issue on campus and give everyone a headache."

In all seriousness, email activism is especially important at Hamilton because it often feels as if students' voices go ignored. When an instance of sexual assault happens on campus, we get one email from the school and that's it unless the case is ongoing. If your favorite professor is fired, you may not hear about it until they're already gone. If you actually need help, it may feel like you can never find it.

This is why we need email activism. Last spring, when we had multiple instances of date rape drugs being used against students, it was email activism that sparked a school-wide protest outside of Buttrick. The chain of emails sent by student-led organizations reminded students to attend the protest and wear black in solidarity and likely invigorated some students to speak out at the protest in front of school officials.

This past Friday, a large crowd of supporters joined the Hamilton Climate Strike Committee's strike outside of Commons in order to show solidarity with other schools and cities around the globe in an attempt to bring awareness to climate change issues. Their message — although well broadcast — likely would not have reached such a broad audience without email activism. They had posters and professors on their side, but I am still quite positive that most students only remembered to wear blue and to attend the strike because of the twenty-plus emails they received in a two-day span. It worked, and it really was a beautiful thing walking into class on Friday and seeing a sea of blue.

Despite email activism's significant role as a means to raise awareness about current issues, however, it is important to acknowledge how annoying it is. I mean, I counted 26 emails about the climate strike in about a 26-hour span (granted, it did grab my attention).

Don't get me wrong; I know these emails are important. Both the date rape drugs last spring and the climate strike last week are huge issues that deserve campus' full attention, and I am glad students had a way to ensure their voices were heard. All I am saying is to be judicious when using email activism. It has proven to be powerful and is, perhaps, the students' best tool in a time of crisis, but don't let that knowledge lead to its overuse.

As the great Immanuel Kant once said: "I seriously can't afford to spend time deleting thirty emails from Student Transportation."

To fight climate change, start with the simple

by Elizabeth Foot '20
Opinion Contributor

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA SEEWALD '23

Although taking part in the Climate Strike was a good first step, Foot writes there are still many strategies we must adopt to save the planet.

Huge round of applause for the Climate Change Walkout last Friday. The amount of support and turnout was widely dispersed between students and faculty, which is important in showing we all stand in unity.

But, the Climate Strike doesn't mark the end of the work to be done. We must take Friday and the cause it supports and continue to take a stand. Taking on saving the world, the polar bears, the ice caps — or just general humanity — is a daunting task, but there are little things you can do (with minimal effort, so really, you have no excuse) to continue contributing to the care of our planet.

We have all probably heard what I am about to suggest a million times. These habits, however, have yet to stick. Please, try to begin implementing them. Do it for whatever reason you want. Do it for the polar bears. Do it for your (future) children. Do it for the coastlines. Or do it for those who are going to be hit way harder than we might be. Just do it to do it. I really don't care. But just try. It'll be easier than you think.

Do not take a long shower. Try to limit to 5-7 minutes, maximum. If you are shaving, turn off the water until you're all lathered up. A 10 minute shower uses 25 gallons of water. Just cutting that time in half could help conserve millions of gallons a year.

Eat food that is in season. We all (mostly) love avocados, I know. But the amount of energy required to produce avocados outside their normal season, which is between June and October, costs the environment far more than the trendy, yummy avocado toast is worth. Use peanut butter or bananas instead.

Turn your lights off when you leave your room. Yes, even your fairy lights.

Get a reusable mug. You get a discount at Opus! Plus, you are keeping yourself from being another statistic to condemn Hamilton students for the amount of disposable cups they use daily.

Recycle. Compost. Just be smart about disposing of your food. Even better: only ask or take what you can eat. Your eyes are often bigger than your stomach. Ask servers for one scoop or half a scoop. You can always go back for more.

Pressure your friends to adopt these strategies. The amount of times I have seen plates piled with food on the Commons conveyor belt makes me mad. The amount of times I've been waiting to shower for 20 minutes is frustrating.

I am not saying that I follow these all the time either (I am still working on the reusable mug!), but I, you, and we have no excuse to shy away from taking these necessary steps. It is really not that hard. We can do it.

So, whether you were at the climate walkout or not, these are your new challenges. Embrace them, and embrace that you are making an active choice for your environment, knowing that if the collective comes together, we can enact real change. Eating seasonal food will increase demand in those seasons and allow farmers to plan accordingly. Conserving water and electricity saves money. Plus, if consumers begin demanding sustainable practices from producers, energy companies will have to respond in turn.

Climate change is complex, but the baby steps to make change are not. Right now, it is not so much a question of asking more of others, but rather a question of asking more of yourself. What else can you do? How else can you treat the environment to improve its health? How can you spread these practices to others? These are big questions and worthy of considering over the course of a 5-minute shower.

Bernie vs. Warren — a progressive dilemma

by Will Ling '22
Opinion Contributor

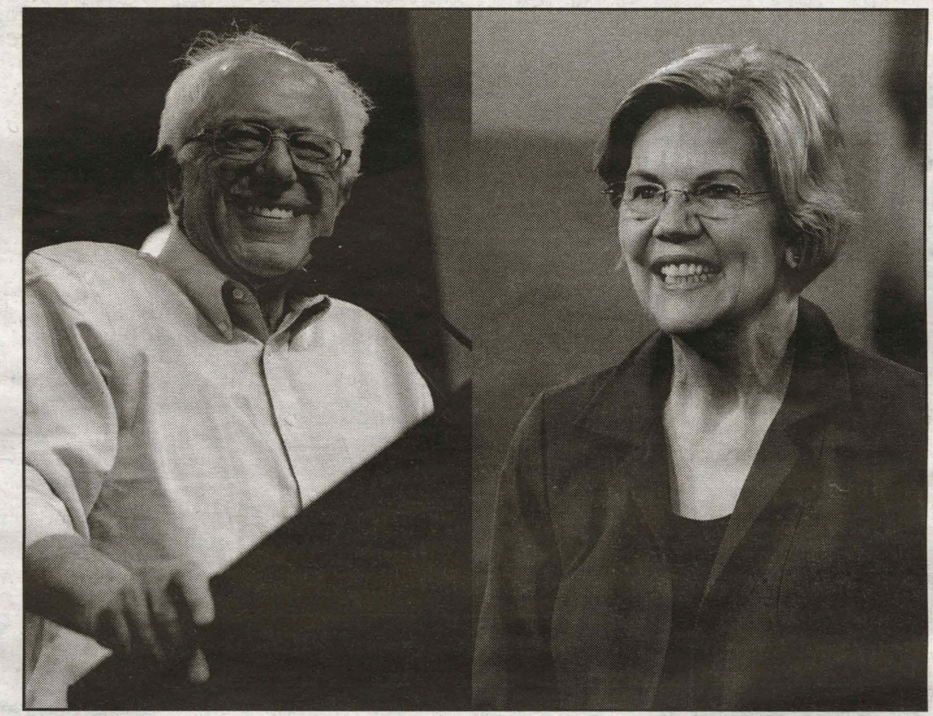


PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Ling argues Bernie Sanders is the more consistently progressive candidate and has shown his ability to lead on topical issues.

Senator Bernie Sanders and Senator Elizabeth Warren are often both grouped into the same category of "far-left" or "progressive." I would describe my politics as left-wing progressive, and, in my opinion, the decision on who to vote for between these two candidates seems pretty straightforward: Bernie Sanders.

Progressivism, in its simplest form, advocates for political reforms that benefit the average everyday working class person. In most modern industrialized countries, this political ideology fits within the mainstream left. However, here in the United States, it is associated with the far left — and occasionally outright communism — by Republicans.

"If you label yourself a progressive, democratic socialist — or any variation of that ideology — the choice of candidate should be Sanders."

Medicare for All, tuition-free college, and a fifteen dollar minimum wage are just a few of the staples of modern American progressivism. They were brought to the center of American left-wing political thought by Senator Sanders during the 2016 presidential election cycle. His bold ideas and self-proclaimed label as a "Democratic Socialist" made many across the country — even within his own party — write him off. Today, the ideas that Bernie Sanders championed have become a large part of the mainstream Democratic agenda.

Sanders and Warren are not as similar as the media often makes them out to be. Let's go to the issue that many Americans describe as the most important issue for them in this election: healthcare. Both, Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren support a Medicare for All system, but so does nearly every Democratic candidate on the 2020 stage. Here's the thing — the progressive Medicare for all system that Senator Sanders has championed is a single payer plan that would eliminate private insurance outside of supplemental care, which can be purchased in addition to one's public coverage. Almost every Democratic candidate's healthcare proposal still includes for-profit health insurance companies as a core tenet of their plans, but, simply put, this inclusion undermines the idea of a true Medicare-for-all system.

Senator Warren's debate rhetoric regarding this issue has increasingly sounded more similar to Bernie, who was shown in a poll conducted by CNN in early July to be Democratic voters' number one choice on who to trust with the healthcare system. Warren, however, released her specific healthcare plan recently, and you will see that nowhere is there mention of a single payer system or mention of eliminating private insurance companies, even on her campaign's website.

Furthermore, Sanders has pledged to not take money from any major Political Action Committees (PACs) throughout this election cycle. Elizabeth Warren has said that she would accept their money in the general election. The issue with this is if she takes campaign contributions from large corporations and PACs, she will be beholden to their interests. This is a main line issue for progressives and its importance cannot be understated.

Sanders also calls for the elimination of all student loans; with Warren, only for some. Sanders wants to write off medical debt, which bankrupts 500,000 Americans annually; Warren has not yet outlined a similar goal. Warren voted to increase Trump's already-bloated military budget by $680 billion; Sanders voted in opposition. Finally, in the 2016 election, Elizabeth Warren did not endorse Bernie Sanders, the progressive candidate with whom she is more relatively more ideologically aligned, instead choosing to endorse Secretary Hillary Clinton, who ran on a centrist platform. It is hard to understand the thought process behind that decision, but it does make me wonder about whether her current rhetoric matches her true beliefs.

I would like to make this clear: Elizabeth Warren would be a great candidate for President. If she is the nominee in the general election she will wholeheartedly receive my vote. However, if you label yourself as a progressive, democratic socialist, or any related ideology, the choice of candidate in the primary should be Bernie Sanders. His views have been consistent, and he is beholden to no special interest. He embodies a true progressive.

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Andrew Wheeler '20

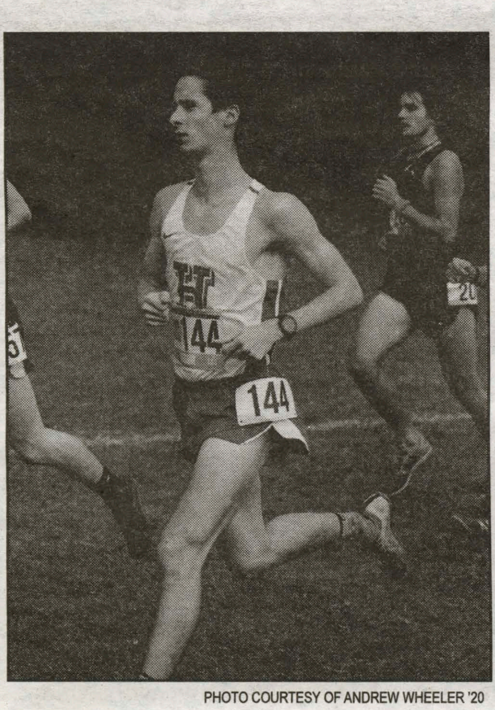


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW WHEELER '20

Hometown: *Walpole, M.A.*

Home on Campus: *Kirkland loft, baby.*

Major: *Math.*

Turn on? *Closed circuits.*

Turn off? *Open circuits.*

If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Kirkland. Could probably throw a good party if you'd let me.*

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why*? Randy Newman (of Toy Story, Monsters Inc, The Three Amigos) and Duke Ellington.*

What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"The best a man can get."*

What TV genre best describes you? *Family comedies on ABC with awkward laugh-tracks.*

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Hey baby are you a fresh can of Utica Club, the first beer sold in the United States after prohibition? Because you're XX Pure."*

What's your type? *AA. 9V's are cool but aren't really used much anymore.*

What are three things you cannot live without? *Gettin' paid, gettin' laid, and Gatorade.*

If you were any social space, what would it be? *Sadove basement, empty and alone.*

Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Club Ento meetings.*

If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Host Farm Party in front of Sadove where Farm House used to be.*

What would you give a thumbs up? *Shotgun O'Clock at 9p.m.*

What would you give a thumbs down? *Not having the make-your-own sandwich in the dining halls. What gives?*

Who would you say is your campus crush? *The squirrel with the really short tail.*

Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Ubaldo Valli.*

What would your perfect date be? *The night we wed.*

If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Slowly walking 5-wide down Martin's Way bridge when all I want to do is get to diner*

Lights on or lights off? *Off, let me sleep already.*

What's the last lie you told? *"I'll just take a short nap"*

What was your first thought this morning? *Is VT the move?*

What's the meaning of life? *42.*

Erica Seff '20

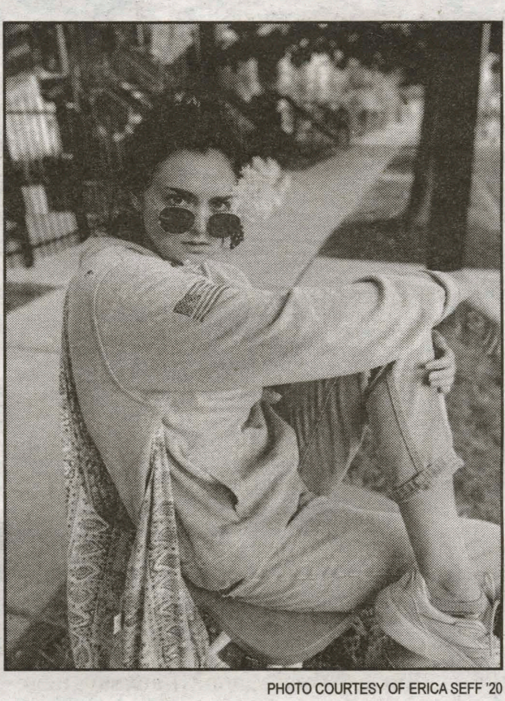


PHOTO COURTESY OF ERICA SEFF '20

Hometown: *Denver, C.O.*

Home on Campus: *Moho.*

Major: *Sociology and Theatre.*

Turn on? *Back scratches and aliens.*

Turn off? *Polo shirts, cargo pants, and men in sandals.*

If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Dunham, because I'm down to get a little dirty.*

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Lady Gaga and Bradly Cooper because I am the star that was born.*

What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Wendy's: "Never frozen always fresh" because I am cool like that.*

What TV genre best describes you? *Animated sitcoms, specifically Rick and Morty, Bob's Burgers, and Big Mouth!*

What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"We are just two star crossed lovers baby."*

What's your type? *Tall boyz with a sense of humor.*

Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The glen (unless it's winter, then fireplace lounge).*

If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Keytone Lights.*

What's your patronus and why? *Abraxan winged horse (very rare) because I am majestic yet powerful.*

If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Cigs inside.*

Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Professor Grace, shh.*

What would your perfect date be? *Sunset walk on G road sipping hot cider in the fall (peak foliage time).*

What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A box filled with wigs varying in color and length.*

If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Leaving you bag for hours in the KJ study room, it's just plain rude!*

If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Sriracha, cause I am a little spicy and should be put on everything. Everything needs hot sauce.*

Favorite campus study spot? *KJ atrium early in the morning before anyone is up.*

What's the last lie you told? *That I didn't drink the last seltzer water in our fridge ... whoops t'was me!*

What was your first thought this morning? *I REALLY do not want to go to my 9am PE class but if I don't I will not graduate. And I need to graduate.*

NESCAC Votes initiative aims to increase voter turnout across college campuses

by Evan Robinson '23
Contributing Writer

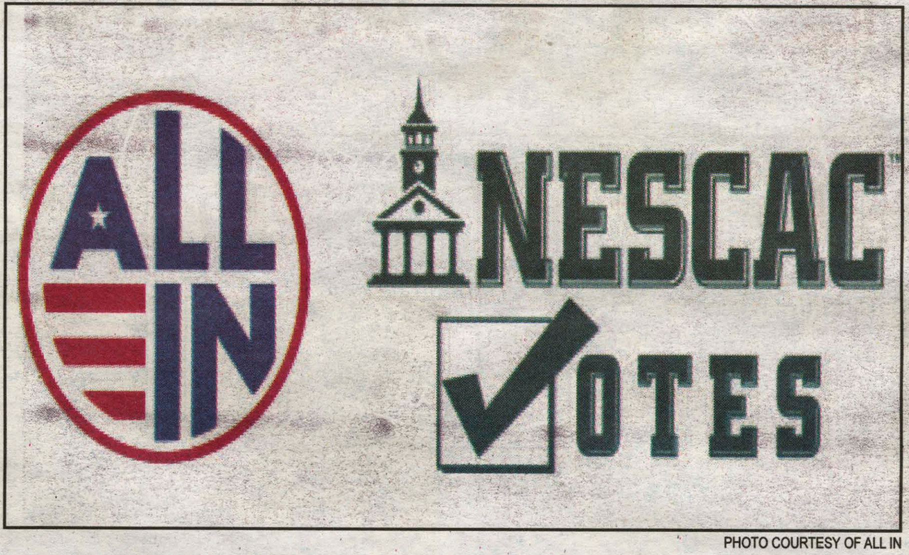


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL IN

The voter registration initiative NESCAC Votes targets student voters and spans across eleven NESCAC schools.

College campuses can be breeding grounds for political discourse and action. Bright and curious people participating in stimulating and challenging academic work create environments in which students are encouraged to listen, reconsider, and redefine.

Still, students tend to underperform at the polls. According to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), student turnout nationwide was under 50 percent for the 2016 presidential election. With this in mind, the eleven NESCAC schools recently partnered with the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, part of the non-profit Civic Nation, to develop an intra-conference initiative whose aim is to stimulate increased student voter education, registration, and ultimately, participation.

The "NESCAC Votes" initiative was conceived by staff at Middlebury and Bowdoin College, who worked throughout the summer of 2018 with the ALL IN Challenge to focus their efforts. Officially announced in March 2019 by the presidents of Middlebury and Bowdoin, the initiative seeks to raise the overall NESCAC campus turnout by eleven percentage points, from 53 to 64, for the 2020 general election.

The design of NESCAC Votes was informed by NSLVE, with additional research conducted by Tufts University. This ongoing study presents an analysis of the voting patterns of college students at participating institutions, gathered primarily from the 2016 presidential election. One of the organizers of NESCAC Votes, Middlebury's Ashley Laux, described the "institution-specific student voting data" provided by NSLVE as critical to the successful collaboration that became NESCAC Votes. At next month's NESCAC Votes summit, Laux says representatives from each school will meet to plan and discuss how NSLVE will continue to "inform get-out-the-vote efforts and campus democratic action plans."

A critical aspect of the ALL IN Challenge — and by extension, of the NESCAC Votes initiative — is non-partisanship. The ALL IN website has a conspicuous "Statement Of Non-Partisanship," in which the movement affirms its impartiality towards candidates and parties; it says it is partial towards only "informed participation" and "American democracy."

Such an egalitarian commitment is especially important in the NESCAC, a conference comprised of largely liberal student bodies and institutions, where more moderate or conservative students and faculty may feel overlooked. At Hamilton specifically, the Ham Votes Committee maintains a similar promise of non-partisanship. In fact, the agendas of both NESCAC Votes and Ham Votes are nearly the same in their designs and aims. With the operation of and collaboration between these two programs, Hamilton looks to play host to a lively scene of political discourse and civic education in the coming year.

Hamilton-relevant data pulled from NSLVE appears to bode well for the school's future political involvement. The 2016 voter turnout across the NESCAC campuses was higher than the national averages for both college students and college-aged non-students. Out of all 50 states, New York saw among the largest overall increase in institution voting rate from 2012 to 2016. The Hamilton voting rate jumped from 9.9 percent to 40.4 percent between 2014 and 2018, with each class showing essentially equal levels of improvement, though the figures do increase slightly with age. Voter registration also went up from 69.3 percent to 86.3 percent. The efforts of the NESCAC Votes initiative looks to strengthen these positive trends.

Going forward, NESCAC Votes is building primarily toward the next year's presidential election. Naturally, such a high-profile vote fosters significant political interest that will potentially translate to greater participation in NESCAC Votes' efforts. Organizers are not yet sure whether the initiative will continue beyond the 2020 election but say they would certainly consider its maintenance probable.

"If other students, staff, and faculty find value in the network created by NESCAC Votes then it's possible we will continue," said Laux. "I am already so pleased by the community this initiative is helping us build."

L.L. Bean pop-up shop comes to campus

by Claire Goldstein '22
Features Editor

Last Wednesday, Sept. 18, the Sadove porch was transformed into an L.L. Bean pop-up shop for students to browse and explore the brand's fall clothing and footwear. Hamilton was just one of the many schools that the "Bootmobile" will stop at on its fall college tour.

The pop-up shop at Hamilton was the work of L.L. Bean student ambassador and Hamilton student Ruthie Schmidt '20. As a student representative on Hamilton's campus, Schmidt is involved in club visits, tabling events, social media posts and organizing events like the pop-up shop.

In order to visit as many campuses as they can, "L.L. Bean puts together a route that includes all of the colleges and universities of the ambassadors this semester," said Schmidt.

The pop-up shop was busy all day with students taking advantage of the discounted merchandise.

Hannah Budner '23 commented on the unique shopping experience that the bus created, saying, "The store made me feel like I was shopping off-campus, which was so nice. So was the 20 perecent off. I definitely bought more than I needed."

Gavin Meade '20 said he valued the helpfulness of the L.L. Bean employees at the pop-up shop, saying, "I appreciated their support and expertise while I was deciding on what to buy."

According to Schmidt, "The pop-up shop seemed really well received by the students, and the bootmobile employees were really impressed at the turnout and the student body's excitement about the event and the gear."

Though there will be no more pop-up shops this year, Schmidt says she will be hosting two tabling events before L.L. Bean's college program ends after Thanksgiving.

"In general," said Schmidt, "I think Hamilton welcoming more brands and pop-up shops that are relevant to the student body could be really fun and exciting for the students, especially if there are students on campus willing to work with the brands or organize it themselves."

The Bootmobile is on its way to the University of New Hampshire this week. Though it may not return this year, the image of the giant boot-themed truck and colorful pop-up shop will no doubt persist in memory.

L.L.Bean
POP-UP SHOP
L.L.Bean

PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHARINE PIERCE '20

Above: Students browse the clothing selection in the bus. Below: Student rep Ruthie Schmidt '20 creates custom shoe laces.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHARINE PIERCE '20

The Hamilton Horoscope

by Claire Goldstein '22
Features Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF VEXELS.COM

Each of the twelve zodiacal signs represents a constellation that corresponds to birthdays as well as where you were born.

We are now well into the school year, and the stress of balancing everything you want to do with school is making you question your decisions. Well, look no further than the astrological portents, and your questions will be answered. Find your birthday below to identify your sign.

January 20-February 18: **Aquarius**
February 19-March 20: **Pisces**
March 21-April 19: **Aries**
April 20-May 20: **Taurus**
May 21-June 20: **Gemini**
June 21-July 22: **Cancer**
July 23-August 22: **Leo**
August 23-September 22: **Virgo**
September 23-October 22: **Libra**
October 23-November 21: **Scorpio**
November 22-December 21: **Sagittarius**
December 22-January 19: **Capricorn**

Aries

You are a little nervous for your family members to come to campus. Do not feel pressured to entertain them. Remember they are here to see you because they miss your wonderful face. Take a deep breath and let the weekend run its course.

Taurus

Take some time for self-care this weekend, Taurus. Not just the consumer idea of self-care, like a facemask or glass of wine. Do some mindful meditation, go on a walk in the Glen, or do something that makes you happy. You deserve this!

Leo

You have been working hard lately, and this week should be easier. Use the extra time to focus on things you have neglected. If you have an iPhone, check your screen time in settings. If it is higher than you want it to be, try picking up a book or doing something you enjoy every time you would go on your phone.

Virgo

You have been uncertain of what to make of new choices in your life. Uncertainty is not always a bad thing. Do not be scared of the unpredictable because it can lead to amazing discoveries. Like the dad in *Another Cinderella Story* says, "Don't let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game."

Sagittarius

You are a little stressed, and your diet has gotten worse because of it. Focus on what you put in your body this week. Think about what you eat, and remember that every cell in your body is made of things you have eaten. Absolutely wild to think about.

Scorpio

The past is troubling you, and this week is a fresh start. Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Put the past behind you, and focus on what you can do to make things better going forward. Everyday is a new day so do not lose faith.

Aquarius

Your curious nature is dying to get out and discover something new. Since there is no ancient cave to explore on campus, go out and try to find a new study spot. Get creative! If that doesn't satisfy your needs, maybe you can find a dinosaur bone in the Glen!

Cancer

September is almost over, and as time goes on, remember the people who got you where you are. Give your parents or grandparents a call this week and thank them for everything they have done. Also don't forget to register to vote!

Gemini

A new friendship awaits you this week. Be open minded to new conversations. Talk to the person standing next to you in line or the person that sits next to you in class, and maybe you will find a new friend. It could be David Wippman! Honestly, who's to say?

Libra

You are so caught up in the moment, you have forgotten the past. Memories are some of the most important things we have; take some time this week to write down a fond memory from a time before college. It will be worth it in twenty years when you are rich and famous and you need to write your memoir.

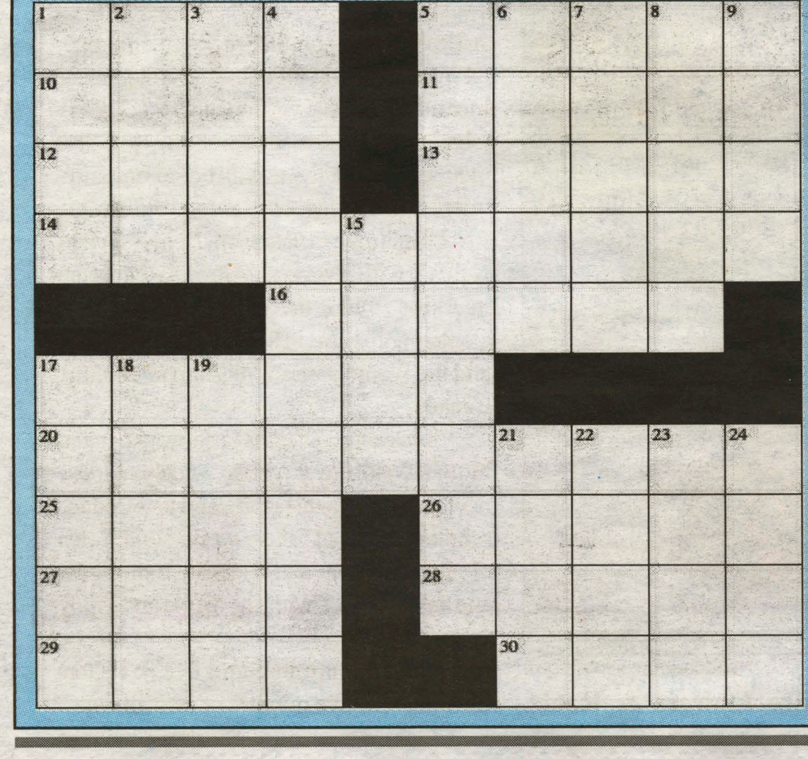
Capricorn

Something is really bugging you this week, Capricorn. You will have to let it go, because there are some things that you just can not change. Remember what George Carlin said: "Don't sweat the petty things, and don't pet the sweaty things."

Pisces

Work and extracurriculars sometimes keep you from doing all the things you want to. Make sure you take some time to do all the fall activities you want to do before it's too late! The Cider Mill is literally calling your name, Pisces!

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Spontaneously careless
5. Boy Scout badge of commendation
10. Charles Lamb's "Essays of _____"
11. Oldsmobile's final model
12. "And others" in an academic paper
13. Neighbor of Oman and Saudi Arabia
14. This weekend at Hamilton
16. Fool's Gold
17. Intimidatingly cool
20. It puts you to sleep
25. Old-fashioned hotels
26. Son of Ilya
27. Mindless and mechanical
28. Inner part of a flower
29. Changes the color of
30. Require

Down

1. A community of coral
2. "Tall", as for a female in Spanish
3. Upper layer of Earth's crust
4. Tokens of freedom in high school?
5. Being the highest authority in a city
6. Resin-bearing tree native to the Philippines
7. Retract a punishment
8. Sherlock's romantic interest in the BBC series
9. One half of a grill grabber?
15. Fluid-filled sac
17. Wisconsin-based investment bank
18. Bother
19. "Al ____" (slightly firm pasta)
21. Enthusiastic energy
22. Cut of stone, clay, or linoleum
23. Sugary frozen drink served in a cup
24. African country whose name means "Lake"

Wellin opens featured fall exhibit, "Elias Sime: Tightrope"

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

On Saturday, Sept. 7, the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art's featured exhibit for the fall semester "Elias Sime: Tightrope," opened. The exhibit features Sime's work from the past decade and a selection of earlier works. The Wellin is the first museum to showcase a major survey of Sime's art.

Elias Sime is an Ethiopian multidisciplinary artist whose work extends to painting, performance, architecture, and sculpture, employing both natural and man-made materials. His art explores how he can repurpose these materials and fuse their opposing concepts into one.

The Wellin Museum first worked with Sime in 2017, when the museum acquired one of his pieces for its permanent collection and put it on display. The piece was immediately popular and well-received amongst museum goers. Additionally, Johnson-Pote Director and "Tightrope" curator Tracy L. Adler worked with Sime over several years and says she admired his work for some time.

Adler thought that an exhibition of Sime's work would be a good fit for the Wellin Museum because of the art's accessibility, its relevance to pressing contemporary issues of sustainability, and its educational potential.

"Elias's work has numerous access points, and for a teaching museum like the Wellin, this affords different disciplines to interact with the work," said Adler. "We've already had classes in a range of subjects engage with the show."

The entirety of the Wellin staff, in addition to some faculty and administration members, worked with Sime to put on "Tightrope." As part of the process, Adler also traveled to Sime's studio and the Zoma Museum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which Sime co-founded with anthropologist, curator, and writer Meskerem Assegued.

"Tightrope" features more than twenty-five works that vary in size and holistically reflect Sime's artistry.

"All the works are all made from repurposed computer and electrical components," said Adler. "But the artist is quick to say it's not about recycling but rather using non-traditional materials and having an appreciation for the latent beauty of functional objects. It does, however, point to the difficulties — or the tightrope — technology presents. It has made the world smaller and information and communication more fluid, but [it has] also mediated our lived experiences."

A monograph will also accompany the exhibit. Adler said that this will be "the first monograph devoted to Sime's work," and it will feature "contributions by Tracy L. Adler; Meskerem Assegued, Curator and Co-Director, Zoma Museum, Addis Ababa; Dr. Karen E. Milbourne, Senior Curator, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; and Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi, Steven and Lisa Tananbaum Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, The Museum of Modern Art, New York."

In addition to the "Tightrope" exhibit, Sime collaborated with Hamilton students to create a sculpture over the summer. The sculpture, Flowers & Roots, was inspired by the Saunders Peonies, which former professor Arthur Percy Saunders developed at Hamilton College in the mid-twentieth century. Flowers & Roots currently resides on the Wellin Museum's Selch Terrace and was funded through the Daniel W. Dietrich '64 Fund for Innovation in the Arts.

The students who participated in the project were Safa Ahmed '21, Alexander Fergusson '20, Olivia Fuller '19, Elias Griffin '20, Anika Huq '19, Lila Reid '20, and Henry Andrew Watson '19.

Ahmed says she was inspired to join the project after hearing about it from her advisor, Professor of Art Rebecca Murtaugh. Fergusson has worked at the Wellin Museum since he was a first-year, and says when he was looking to continue work there over the summer, the museum invited him to be part of the project.

Ahmed and Fergusson had shared and unique roles during the creation process. Both students helped spread HyperTufa over the structure, while Fergusson also cut and glued computer chips, and Ahmed shaped and cut wood and steel mesh to make petal structures.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RJ STEELE '23

The exhibition features twenty-five pieces of artist Elias Sime's work.

Ahmed says she loved the positive and fun work environment and thought it was amazing to work with Sime; she said one of her favorite parts of the project was when people sang and danced to music during work.

"[Sime] is such a passionate and talented artist, and he was always willing to help and teach us," said Ahmed. "He was very hands-on with his sculpture and tried to make sure we got a very good grasp on how to handle the HyperTufa."

Fergusson found that this exploration of his visually artistic side was both his biggest challenge and favorite part of the project.

"Most of my artistic thought gets channeled into performative arts (music and improv comedy) and so beginning to delve into the visual side of things was a really fun thing," he said. "Also the people I worked with, both students and Wellin staff (as well as Elias, of course) were a delight. The construction of a sculpture uses a lot of hand work, allowing for lots of chatting."

There will be numerous "Tightrope"-related events happening on campus in the near future. On Wednesday, Oct. 2, in the Wellin Museum, Dr. Karen E. Milbourne will deliver a lecture at 4:30 PM about her contribution to the Elias Sime monograph and her work in contemporary African art. On Monday, Nov. 4, at 5:00 PM, Tracy Adler will lead a tour of the exhibit. Adler noted that "Tightrope" has already had "classes from Africana studies, art, art history, environmental studies, ESOL, French, Hispanic studies, literature, creative writing, and psychology [sign] on to work with the show." She also mentioned that there will be community-oriented programs based around the exhibit.

"Tightrope" closes on Dec. 8. Afterwards, it will travel to the Akron Art Museum in Akron, Ohio, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri, and the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada.

"It's exciting to have a show generated by the Wellin to travel so widely, expose new audiences to his work, and to introduce scholarship about Elias's work," said Adler. "I also hope that audiences visit the show and just connect with the work and enjoy themselves.

"The [Wellin] museum is free, so visitors can come for five minutes or stay all day."

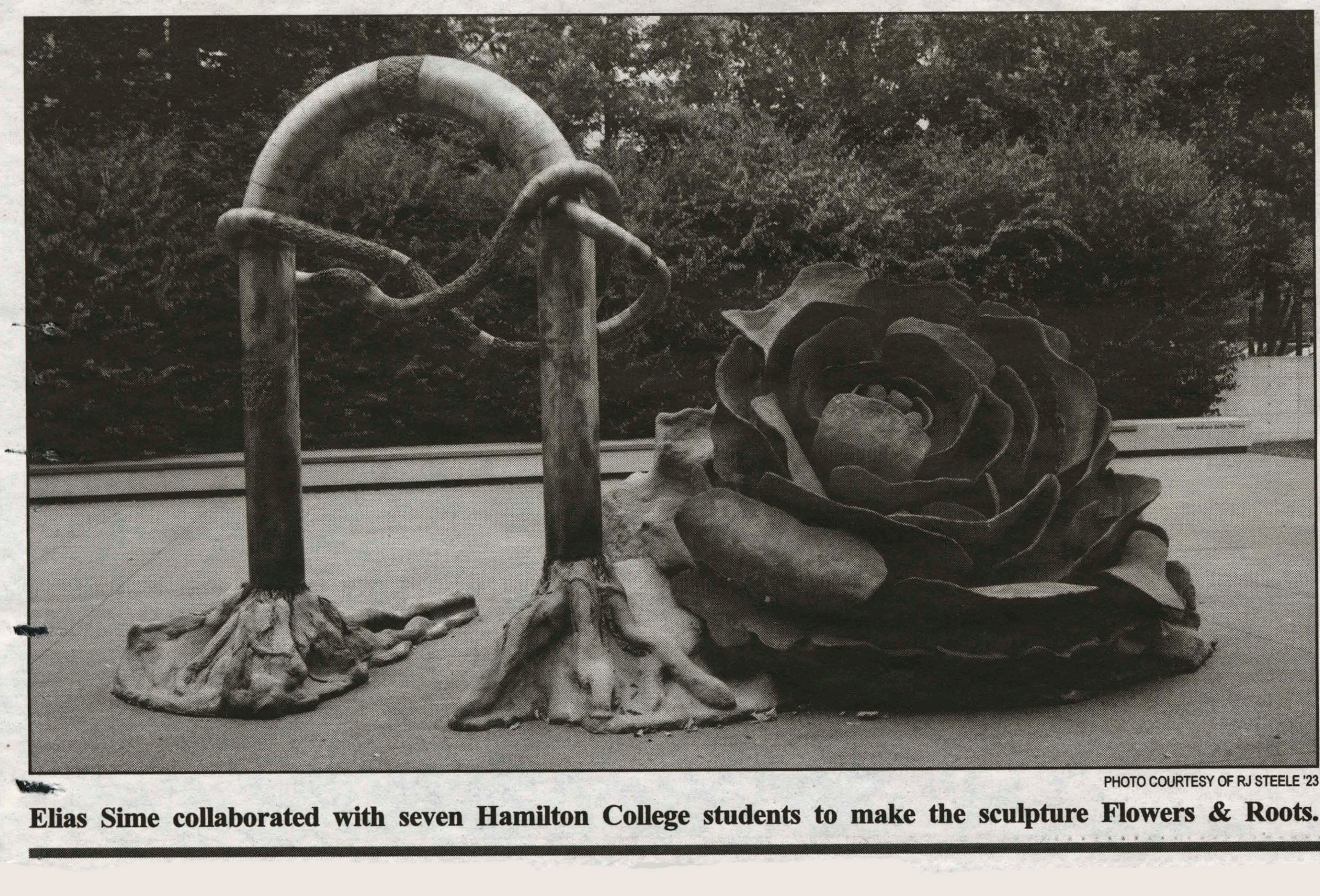


PHOTO COURTESY OF RJ STEELE '23

Elias Sime collaborated with seven Hamilton College students to make the sculpture Flowers & Roots.

Future films to keep an eye on: *Bombshell* trailer earns Oscar buzz

by Lelan O'Brien '23
A&E Contributor

In the summer of 2016, multiple women from the Fox News Channel publicly accused the company's then-CEO, Roger Ailes, of sexual assault. Less than 2 months after the first woman, Gretchen Carlson, came forward, Ailes resigned from his position at Fox News.

The story of the women who came forward will soon find its way to theaters when the film *Bombshell* premieres on Dec. 20.

The film's star-studded cast features Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie, and Charlize Theron, and early reviews indicate that it will be a top Oscar contender next February.

For background, Ailes was one of the first major names in the news industry who stepped down from his position amid sexual allegations. Soon after, other sexual harassment cases involving industry figures like Bill O'Reilly, Matt Lauer, and Charlie Rose became public.

The Roger Ailes case is cited as inspiring other victims of sexual harassment to come forward prior to the #MeToo movement.

Ailes was first a political consultant to President Ronald Reagan and later to President George H.W. Bush, quickly making a name for himself within the political arena. In 1996, Rupert Murdoch of 21st Century Fox hired Ailes as CEO of a new cable news outlet, The Fox News Channel. Fox News hosts soon became household names, and the channel found success in branding itself as a "fair and balanced" network and an alternative to the purported left-leaning news media.

Fox News is now one of the most-watched cable news networks in America. Hosts at the network quickly strive for coveted primetime slots and work tirelessly to get themselves there. In the 2010s, Gretchen Carlson and Megyn Kelly were among these Fox employees in the running for a primetime program and were among the multiple women who came forward in 2016 accusing Ailes of making unwanted sexual advances towards them. Carlson and Kelly are the focus of *Bombshell*.

In the film, Nicole Kidman plays Gretchen Carlson, Charlize Theron plays Megyn Kelly, and Margot Robbie plays a composite fictional character.

The trailer for *Bombshell* was released last month. Some of the most striking elements of the trailer included the lack of dialogue, the dramatic background music, and the near-identical portrayals of the characters by their actors.

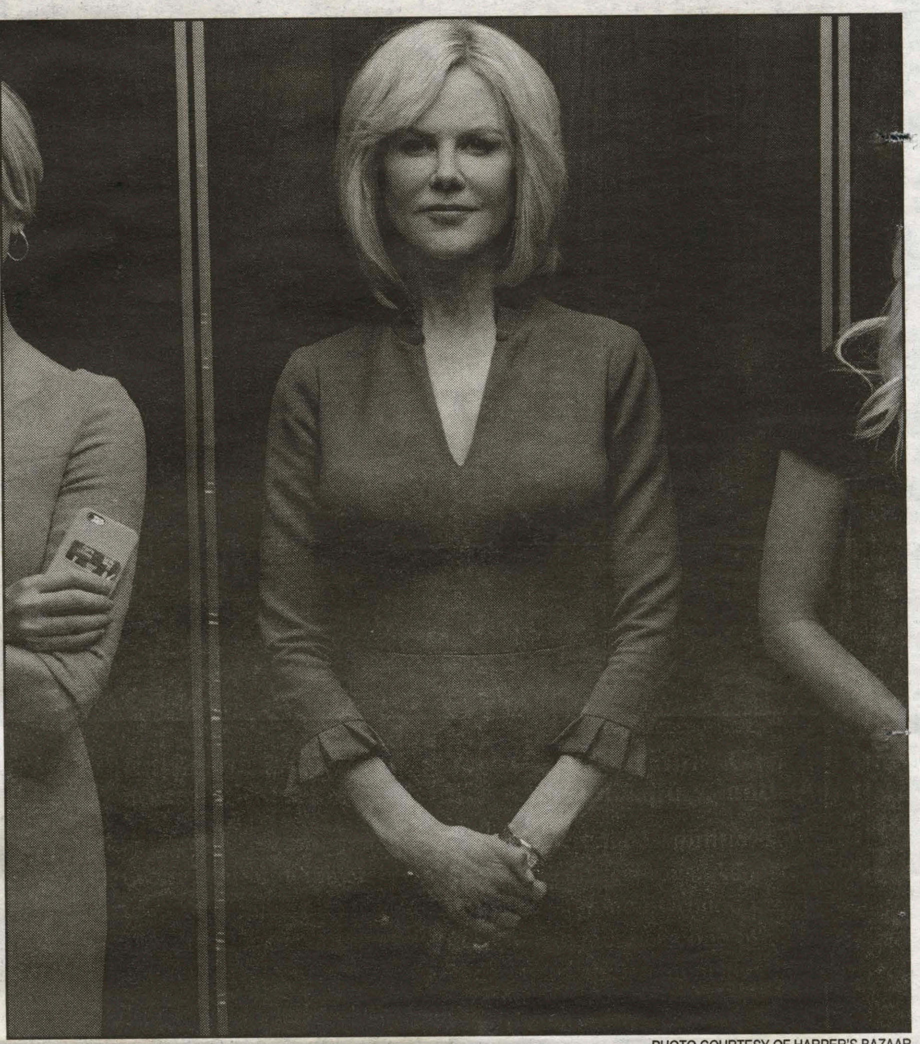


PHOTO COURTESY OF HARPER'S BAZAAR

Nicole Kidman stars as Gretchen Carlson in *Bombshell*. Carlson was the first Fox News employee to come forward with allegations of sexual harassment against former CEO Roger Ailes in 2016.

Hamilton College's Family Weekend is a time when alumni and families are invited to see Hamilton in all its Fall glory and take part in a full weekend of events. Here are some screenings, concerts, and recitals to look forward to from student and faculty performers and outside groups!

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

Warrior Women Film Screening
Thursday, Sept. 26 in Bradford Auditorium at 6:30 PM

A film screening and discussion with Madonna Thunder Hawk, the main character of the documentary Warrior Women. The film explores what it means to navigate a movement and motherhood and how activist legacies are passed down and transformed from generation to generation in the context of a colonizing government that meets Native resistance with violence.

26th Annual Fallcoming Jazz Concert
Friday, Sept. 27 in Fillius Events Barn at 9:00 PM

Clarinetist Evan Christopher teams up with trumpet stylist Jon-Erik Kellso for a New Orleans themed concert. With pianist David Torkanowsky and bassist Neal Caine, their program will celebrate jazz music legends Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet, whose works introduced the idea of the improvising soloist in jazz music.

Book Discussion by Seth Schermerhorn
Friday, Sept. 27 in Kirner-Johnson 101 at 1:30 PM

Seth Schermerhorn, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, will discuss his recent book *Walking to Magdalena*. Focusing on the annual pilgrimage of the Tohono O'odham to Magdalena in Sonora, Mexico, Schermerhorn examines how these indigenous people of southern Arizona have made Christianity their own.

Wellin Museum Director's Tour
Friday, Sept. 27 in Wellin Museum of Art at 2:00 PM

Johnson-Pote Director and Wellin Museum of Art curator Tracy L. Adler will lead a tour of the current exhibit "Elias Sime: Tightrope".

F.I.L.M Presents The Alloy Orchestra
Friday, Sept. 27 in Bradford Auditorium at 8:00 PM

The Alloy Orchestra (Terry Donahue, Roger Miller, and Ken Winokur), praised as "the best in the world at accompanying silent film" by the late Roger Ebert, will perform their own scores for major classic films. They are returning to Hamilton for one final visit - the group is breaking up - to accompany Buster Keaton's *The General* and Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*.

PHOTO COURTESTY OF PITCHFORK

A Capella Concert
Friday, Sept. 27 at 8:30 PM and Saturday, Sept. 28 at 9:00 PM in the Chapel

The College invites families to attend a concert featuring all five of its a cappella groups: Tumbling After, Duelly Noted, Special K, The Hamiltones, and The Buffers. All groups will be performing new songs with their newest freshman members.

Documentary Film Screening
Saturday, Sept. 28 in Red Pit (KJ 127) at 1:00 PM

A film screening of the documentary *Archaeology at the River Narrows: Indigenous Occupation of the Slocan Valley.* Directed by members of the Digital Humanities Initiative at Hamilton, the film documents the Slocan Narrows Archaeological Project, which has been ongoing since 2000. Their research has provided substantial information about indigenous lifeways in the Upper Columbia River area during the last 3,000 years.

Family Weekend Performance
Saturday, Sept. 28 in Wellin Hall at 7:30 PM

The Hamilton College Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Choir, and Department of Dance and Movement studies will present a recital showcasing their recent work.

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Tuesday, September 17
4 PM Christian-Johnson 305

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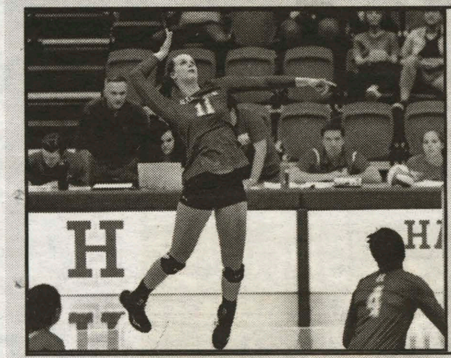
Parents' Weekend Athletic Events



Volleyball

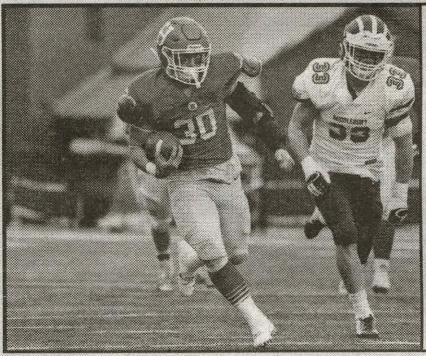
The volleyball team (7-3, 1-0 NESCAC) will go up against Williams College (8-3, 1-0 NESCAC) at 8:00 P.M. on Friday, Sept. 27 in Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team (3-2-1, 1-2-1 NESCAC) will face Colby College (2-2-2, 1-22 NESCAC) at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, Sept. 28 on Love Field.

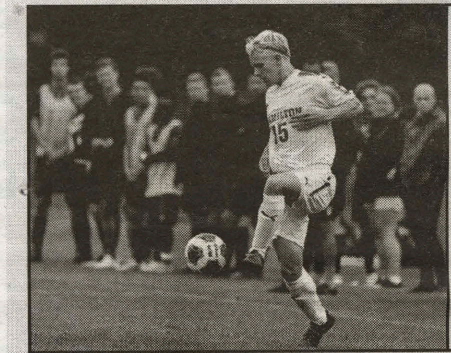
Field Hockey

The field hockey team (2-3, 1-2 NESCAC) will play No. 19 Colby College (4-1, 3-1 NESCAC) at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, Sept. 28 on Goodfriend Field.



Football

The football team (1-1 NESCAC) will take on Colby College (0-2 NESCAC) at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, Sept. 28 on Steuben Field.



Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team (1-5, 0-3 NESCAC) will play Colby College (4-3, 1-3 NESCAC) at 1:30 P.M. on Saturday, Sept. 28 on Love Field, following their 11:00 A.M. Alumni Game on Ferguson Field.

Men's and Women's Rugby

Both the men's and women's rugby teams will play on Sunday, Sept. 29 on Minor Field. The women's team will first go up against SUNY Oneonta at 11:00 A.M., followed by the men's team at 1:00 P.M. who will battle SUNY Potsdam.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

"The best team in program history" An interview with Billy Wagner '20

by Julia Rowland '21
Staff Writer

The Spectator caught up with the Continentals' tight end and punter, Billy Wagner '20, to get the low down on his career, the team, and what is to be expected for the Continentals as the season rolls on.

Spectator: How have the first two games been your opinion? Obviously you guys are 1-1 but there is a lot more to how a team is doing than its record.

Wagner: We've done a lot of good things throughout the first two games. We just need to execute for a full 60 minutes.

Spec: Do you have any personal goals that you would like to complete before your time on Steuben is up? I know you have accomplished quite a few already: First Team All NESCAC Special Teams, Preseason All American, etc. any others you would like to add to the list?

Wagner: I'd honestly love to win the league this year. It would be a great way for our seniors to end their careers and would be great momentum heading into next season.

Spec: Let's discuss the team without Joe Schmidt — a crucial member of the team who broke his collarbone against Wesleyan and is unfortunately out for the season — how does the team continue to perform at its highest level without him?

Wagner: Schmidt is a phenomenal player and it's a shame his senior year had to get cut short, but I strongly believe that the next guy will step up and make the most of the opportunity at hand. We have a lot of talented guys on the roster.

Spec: Up next is family weekend and you guys are set to take on Colby College. The past two years you guys have split games with them, what will be the key to getting this family weekend win?

Wagner: Execution is honestly the most important thing. We have the best game plan and schemes in for what we expect Colby to do, now all we have to do is go out there and execute.

Spec: Compared to years past, how do you think the team compares to older ones? What are you most excited about this season?

Wagner: I think we have more talent on this team than ever before. I'm most excited about being the best team in program history.

The Continentals are 1-1 and their next home game is Saturday the 28th on Steuben Field at 1:00 PM against the Colby College Mules.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Despite losing a key starter in Joe Schmidt '20, Wagner (above) says the team has what it takes to win the NESCAC.

Athlete of the Week: Deirdre Corrigan ’23

Corrigan has started every game of her Hamilton career, even as a first-year. So far this season, she has already had two double-doubles. Additionally, she had 18 kills and 18 digs against SUNY Brockport and later 10 kills and 14 digs against Trinity College. Further, Corrigan hit .476 with 12 kills in an out-of-conference match against Cazenovia College. She currently leads all NESCAC first-years in kills per set (2.88).

Nickname: D.

Hometown: Ramsey, NJ.

Position: Setter and Outside Hitter.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Carli Snyder.

How did you get introduced to volleyball: My sister played and so I started to practice on the sideline of her games when I was about 5 or 6 years old. I’ve been playing ever since!

Favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport: I am a freshman so I don’t really do much yet, but I guess hanging out with the team and getting to know people on campus!!

What attracted you to Hamilton’s volleyball program: The close dynamic of the team and the coaching staff Kristin Baker and Samuel Haimann. Everyone is always having fun on and off the court, while working hard at the same time. It’s a perfect balance that makes me happy to be a part of the team.

Favorite sports moment at Hamilton: My favorite sports moment at Hamilton so far has been our most recent game against Trinity. Everyone on the team played amazing and came together as a group to control the game. It felt great to win our first in-conference match at home in front of all our fans!

What are you most looking forward to this season: I’m looking forward to continuing to surprise our opponents in NESCAC play. Our team is working super hard and playing very well, and I think every game will be a battle for us to prove ourselves as a program.

If you weren’t on the volleyball team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why: I really just want to be a part of squash gang!

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON ATHLETICS

Grassey and Hoffman continue athletic and academic careers abroad

by Kelcie Zarle ’22
Staff Writer

On Friday, Mar. 8, 2019, the Hamilton College men’s basketball team took on #9-ranked Christopher Newport in the third round of the NCAA Championship tournament. After winning both the first (vs. Penn State Behrend, 72–70) and second (vs. Moravian, 83–72) round games on their home court at Margaret Bundy Scott Field House, the team was hoping to continue its winning ways and advance to the tournament’s Elite Eight round. Unfortunately, the Continentals came up just short in a hard-fought loss to Christopher Newport, 75–67.

It marked not the end of a great 2018-19 campaign for the men’s team but also the end of some of the senior’s collegiate basketball careers. For Peter Hoffmann ’19 and Michael Grassey ’19, however, there was another chapter ahead.

The Sports Changes Life Foundation’s Victory Scholar Program selected Hoffmann and Grassey to the program’s Class of 2020 following their graduation from Hamilton. The Victory Scholar Program, which is based in Ireland, offers recent student-athlete graduates the opportunity to continue with their studies and basketball careers. The 22 student-athletes selected this year are not only playing competitively at different universities and clubs in Ireland, but are also given the chance to study for a postgraduate degree and participate in community outreach programs, where they serve as community role models.

The main goal of the program is to allow the graduates to work with the local population and through their service work while offering the opportunity to continue playing basketball and pursuing academic studies.

*see **Ireland,** page 16*

PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL ZUCKERMAN '19

Michael Grassey ’19 made 186 three-pointers while at Hamilton. He now attends the Waterford Institute of Technology in Waterford, Ireland.

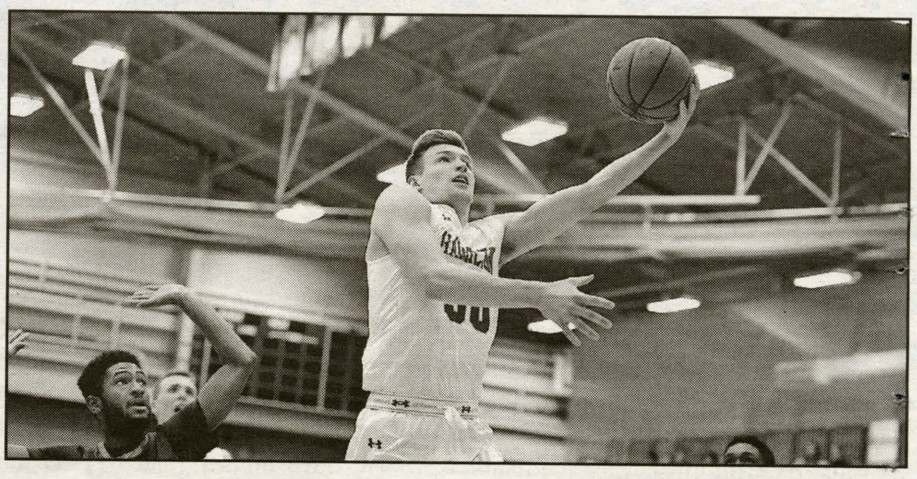


PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL ZUCKERMAN '19

Peter Hoffmann, Hamilton’s 2019 Riffle Award Winner, now attends the Cork Institute of Technology in Cork, Ireland.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

September 26, 2019

Four first-years in focus
Standouts from the Class of 2023

Craig Feist
Men's Cross Country

Craig Feist '23 has already made an impact for the Men's Cross Country team, finishing in the varsity seven in his first two meets. At the Hamilton Short Course Invitational, Feist finished in a time of 16:34.6 and 49th place, helping the Continentals place third overall. At their second meet of the season, the Rochester Invitational, Feist finished in 68th place overall and 6th on the team with a time of 27:50.7. He shows a lot of potential and hopes to be a force for the men's team over the next four years.

Tracey Stafford
Field Hockey

Tracey Stafford '23 has been a key member of the Continentals' offense this year. She has played in all of the team's first five games and started in two of them. Stafford already has five points this season and earned her first point with an assist to Maddie Beitler '21 in the game against Bates College. She scored her first career goal on Sept. 14 against No. 17 Amherst College. In the next game against No. 1 Middlebury College, she scored the only goal for the Continentals in their 5-1 defeat. Stafford is currently third on her team in total points (5), behind only Maddie Beitler '21 (8) and Sarah Pierpoint '21 (7).

Class of 2023 Collective Stats:

Fall Athletes: 78

Goals: 14

Assists: 9

Starts: 42

Hyla Mosher
Women's Soccer

Hyla Mosher '23 has immediately stepped up as an offensive weapon on the women's soccer team. Along with leading the team in goals and points, she is currently tied for most goals of any NESCAC player (6) and leads all first years in the league in total points (13). Mosher scored her first goal in the Continentals' season opener, a 4-2 loss to No. 1 Williams College. She has scored at least one goal in four of their five following games, with a current career-high of five total points in a 4-1 win over Utica College on Sept. 18. Mosher will undoubtedly be a crucial player for the team as the season progresses.

Justin D'Alessandro
Men's Soccer

Justin D'Alessandro '23, who plays back, has quickly made an impact on the Continentals' defense. He has received playing time in each of men's soccer's six games this season. This includes three starts against Bates College, Ithaca College, and Amherst College, respectively. He joins Jack Sheehan '21, Milo Donovan '21, and Luke Eckels '20 in their rock solid defensive line. The Continentals strong defense this season has kept them in the game against multiple close opponents this year.

Basketball alumni continue careers in Ireland

*from **Ireland,** page 15*

Hoffmann and Grassey say they are excited to see what Ireland has to offer both academically and athletically. At Hamilton, they each majored in Public Policy. On the court, the two helped the Continentals win 76 games over the course of their careers and both 1,000 point scorers — Hoffman scored 1,488 points and Grassey scored 1,204 points. Hoffman also finished with 110 blocked shots and 500 rebounds. Grassey ended his Hamilton career with 186 made three pointers and 654 rebounds.

According to the Hamilton College Athletics website, in the 2018-18 season, Hoffman and Grassey "helped lead the Continentals to a 25-5 record as the team tied for first place in the NESCAC regular season standings for the second straight year, advanced to the conference championship final, and hosted the first four rounds of the NCAA tournament."

Hoffman was awarded the College's Riffle Award at the 2019 Jack B. Riffle Senior Varsity Athlete Ceremony. He is now studying at Cork Institute of Technology in Cork, Ireland, while Grassey '19 is studying at Waterford Institute of Technology in Waterford, Ireland.

The dynamic's duos accomplishments are already etched into Hamilton athletic history and the community will no doubt be watching to see what they will now accomplish abroad.